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THE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF SKIPTON

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR

1949

BY

M. Hunter, M.B.E., M.D., D.P.H.

The Urban District Council of Skipton

A N N U A L R E P O R T

of the

M E D I C A L O F F I C E R O F H E A L T H

for the year

1949

by

M. HUNTER, M.B.E., M.D., D.P.H.

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HEALTH COMMITTEE

Chairman	Councillor W.A. Anderson, J.P.
Vice Chairman	" Mrs. M. Mitchell
	" Mrs. M.P. Banks
	" W.M. Banks
	" M.W. Crabtree
	" W. Smith
	" F.C. Waro

Staff of the Department

Medical Officer of Health and Divisional Medical Officer	M. Hunter M.B.E. M.D. D.P.H.
Chief Sanitary Inspector	E. Hargreaves A.R.S.I. M.S.I.A.
Additional Sanitary Inspectors	T.W. Tindall A.R.S.I. A.F.G. Holmes (unqualified assistant)
Clerk	Miss. M. Ashworth

Divisional Health Office,
19a, High Street,
Skipton.

To the Chairman and Members of the
Health Committee.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the report for the year 1949, a year during which further progress has been made in the Public Health field. This report differs from that of 1948, in that all references to the health services operated by the West Riding County Council (the Local Health Authority for the district), have been removed from the main report and included as an Appendix.

These services are organised on a divisional basis, and as No. 1 Division includes the urban districts of Silsden, Earby, Barnoldswick and Skipton, and the rural district of Skipton, it is difficult to break down the details and at the same time make an adequate commentary on the work. It was therefore considered that a comprehensive divisional report would be more informative and valuable; although a close liaison is maintained between the Local Authority and Local Health Authority in the day to day work of both organisations. The report shows that the health of the district was generally satisfactory during the year, the vital statistics and infectious disease rates comparing favourably with those for England and Wales as a whole. Further reference to those matters is made under the appropriate sections.

I should like to take this opportunity of thanking the Chairman and Members of the Council, the Clerk and other Officers, and the Staff of the Department for their kindness and courteous assistance throughout the year.

I have the honour to be
Your obedient servant,

M. HUNTER.

Medical Officer of Health.

Section A - STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

BIRTHS

						Total	Male	Female
Live, Legitimate	..	..	..	..	..	207	109	98
Illegitimate	..	..	..	..	..	18	9	9
						—	—	—
					Total:	225	118	107
						—	—	—
Still, Legitimate	..	..	..	..	..	2	1	1
Illegitimate	..	..	..	..	..	-	-	-
						—	—	—
					Total:	2	1	1
						—	—	—
					Total Births:	227	119	108

BIRTH RATES

Live Births (per 1,000 estimated population) 16.79
 Still Births (per 1,000 live and still births) 8.81

DEATH RATES

(crude)

(per 1,000 estimated population).

Death Rate of Infants under one year of age.

All Infants (per 1,000 live births) 31

Diarrhoea
(deaths of infants under two years per 1,000 live births)

Diarrhoea under 2 years Nil

Maternal Mortality
(per 1,000 live and still births)

Puerperal Sepsis Nil
 Other Puerperal Causes Nil

Birth Rates, Civilian Death Rates,
Analysis of Mortality, Maternal Mortality and Case Rates
for Certain Infectious Diseases in the year 1948.
Rates per 1,000 civilian population

		England and Wales	126 C.B's and great Towns incl London	148 smaller Towns (Resident Pop. 25,000 - 50,000 at 1931 Census)	London Admin. County	Skipton U.D.
BIRTHS:						
Live Births	(a)	16.7	18.7	18.0	18.5	16.79
Still Births	(a)	0.39	0.47	0.40	0.37	0.14
DEATHS:						
All causes	(a)	11.7	12.5	11.6	12.2	14.85
Typhoid and Paratyphoid		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	-
Whooping Cough		0.01	0.02	0.01	0.01	-
Diphtheria		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	-
Tuberculosis		0.45	0.52	0.42	0.52	0.44
Influenza		0.15	0.15	0.14	0.11	0.29
Smallpox		0.00	0.00	-	-	-
Acute Polio and Polioencephalitis		0.01	0.02	0.02	0.01	-
Pneumonia		0.51	0.56	0.49	0.59	0.52
NOTIFICATIONS:						
(corrected)						
Typhoid Fever		0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	-
Paratyphoid Fever		0.01	0.02	0.01	0.01	-
Cerebro spinal fever		0.02	0.03	0.02	0.02	-
Scarlet Fever		1.63	1.72	1.83	1.46	0.37
Whooping Cough		2.39	2.44	2.39	1.70	1.71
Diphtheria		0.04	0.05	0.04	0.07	-
Erysipelas		0.19	0.20	0.19	0.17	0.37
Smallpox		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	-
Measles		8.95	8.91	9.18	8.54	7.38
(continued)						

	England and Wales.	126 C.B's and great Towns incl London	148 smaller Towns (Resident Pop. 25,000 - 50,000 at 1931 Census)	London Admin. County	Skipton U.D.
<u>(continued)</u> <u>NOTIFICATIONS:</u> <u>(corrected)</u>					
Pneumonia	0.80	0.91	0.65	0.55	-
Acute Poliomyelitis	0.13	0.13	0.12	0.18	-
Acute Polioencephalitis	0.01	0.01	0.02	0.01	-
Food Poisoning	0.14	0.16	0.14	0.19	-
<u>Rates per 1,000 Live Births.</u>					
<u>DEATHS:</u>					
All causes under 1 year of age. (b)	32	37	30	29	31
Enteritis and Diarrhoea under 2 years of age	3.0	3.8	2.4	1.7	-
<u>Rates per 1,000 Total (Live and Still) Births.</u>					
<u>NOTIFICATIONS:</u> <u>(corrected)</u>					
Puerperal Fever and Pyrexia	6.31	8.14	5.30	6.82	0.22

Maternal Mortality
Rates per 1,000 Total (live and still) Births.

	<u>England & Wales</u>	<u>Skipton Urban District</u>
Abortion with Sepsis	0.11	-
Abortion without Sepsis	0.05	-
Puerperal Infections	0.11	-
Other Maternal Causes	0.71	-

(a) Rates per 1,000 total population.

(b) Per 1,000 related births.

DEATHCauses of Death

Disease	Males	Females	Total
Typhoid and paratyphoid fevers	-	-	-
Cerebro-spinal fever	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever	-	-	-
Whooping Cough	-	-	-
Diphtheria	-	-	-
Tuberculosis of Respiratory system	3	2	5
Other forms of tuberculosis	1	-	1
Syphilitic diseases	-	-	-
Influenza	2	2	4
Measles	-	-	-
Acute polio-myelitis and polio-encephalitis	-	-	-
Acute infective encephalitis	-	-	-
Cancer of buccal cavity and oesophagus (M) and uterus (F)	-	1	1
Cancer of stomach and duodenum	9	11	20
Cancer of breast	-	4	4
Cancer of all other sites	9	8	17
Diabetes	1	4	5
Intracranial vascular lesions	8	23	31
Heart diseases	26	31	57
Other diseases of circulatory system	3	8	11
Bronchitis	4	6	10
Pneumonia	4	3	7
Other respiratory diseases	-	-	-
Ulcer of stomach or duodenum	2	-	2
Diarrhoea under 2 years	-	-	-
Appendicitis	-	-	-
Other digestive diseases	-	2	2
Nephritis	2	1	3
Puerperal and post-abortion sepsis	-	-	-
Other maternal causes	-	-	-
Premature birth	-	-	-
Congenital malformations, birth injuries, etc.	4	2	6
Suicide	-	1	1
Road traffic accidents	1	-	1
Other violent causes	3	-	3
All other causes	2	6	8
ALL CAUSES.	84	115	199

Commentary on Vital Statistics

Births: There has been little change in the birth rate, the figure being 16.7 for both Skipton and England and Wales. In 1948, the figures were 17.0 and 17.9 respectively.

Deaths: The death rate of 14.85 is higher than the average for England and Wales (11.7), and above the 1948 rate of 12.9

The causes of death in order of numerical importance were:-

Heart Diseases
Cancer
Intracranial vascular lesions
Chest Diseases

Deaths from Cancer show a marked increase, there being 41 deaths compared with 23 in 1948.

Infantile Mortality:

A rate of 31 compares favourably with 32 for England and Wales, and is considerably better than last year's rate of 48. Whilst there is a satisfactory improvement, it provides no grounds for complacency, and further reductions should be possible.

Maternal Mortality:

There were again no deaths from puerperal sepsis or other maternal causes.

Section B

Provision of Health Services for the Area.

1. General

The home nursing, midwifery, health visiting, ambulance, mental health and home help services are provided by the County Council, and dealt with in the appendix. Reference will also be found there to clinic arrangements, vaccination and immunisation, the prevention of illness, and the Welfare Services provided under the National Assistance Act.

2. Laboratory Services

The laboratories at Wakefield and Bradford, now operated by the Medical Research Council, are available. They have provided an excellent service, and the advice and assistance of the respective directors has been greatly appreciated.

As the time factor is of importance in the transmission of many specimens, increasing use has been made of the Bradford Laboratory and the bus service to that city.

3. Venereal Diseases

Notification of these diseases is not made to the Medical Officer of Health, but the County Venereologist has been able to provide certain figures. During the year the number of cases attending special treatment centres was eleven, eight being cases of syphilis.

Facilities for diagnosis and treatment are available at the Keighley, Leeds and Bradford hospitals: and certain medical practitioners in the district provide a modified service. The County Council employs a social worker to follow up cases and contacts when required.

4. Blind Persons

There are 49 blind persons registered in the district, 14 being in hospital. Supervision is given by the Blind Persons Teacher employed by the County Council, and specialist examinations are carried out periodically by an ophthalmologist.

5. Tuberculosis

There were two notifications of pulmonary, and two of nonpulmonary tuberculosis during the year, one male and three females. There were five deaths from pulmonary tuberculosis giving a death rate of 0.44 compared with 0.45 for England and Wales.

Although the conduct of the tuberculosis dispensaries and chest clinics and the treatment of patients is now the responsibility of the Regional Hospital Board, tuberculosis is still essentially a public health matter. For it is a social disease and as much, if not more a socio-economic and public health problem as it is a medical and surgical problem. A co-ordination of the tuberculosis service must therefore be achieved, and a close liaison maintained by consultations with the chest physician, and the health visitor appointed by the County Council to assist him. In addition, action has been taken wherever possible to help the tuberculous patient with housing difficulties: and to provide extra milk and other ancillary benefits.

The shortage of sanatorium beds persists, and waiting lists are longer. This means that many patients are in the community spreading infection; others are passing from the curable to the incurable stage. Truly a most serious and regrettable situation.

Two important developments which occurred in this country during the year are worthy of note. The first being the introduction of B.C.G., vaccine from Denmark, for use in raising the immunity of individuals who are especially susceptible or exposed to the risks of infection.

The second is the Food and Drugs (Milk and Dairies) Act, 1944 which came into operation in October, and should go far towards abolishing the deaths, invalidism and crippling which have in the past resulted from infection with the bovine tuberculosis germ.

6. Infectious Diseases

Reference to the accompanying table shows that the incidence of infectious diseases has been low except for outbreaks of measles and whooping cough. However, these were not very extensive, there being 99 cases of measles and 23 of whooping cough, compared with 336 and 72 respectively in the preceding year. There were no deaths.

There were again no cases of diphtheria, and the district was fortunate in having no cases of poliomyelitis.

7. Hospital Services

Whilst the Skipton General Hospital provides an adequate service for the town and the adjoining parts of the rural districts, patients from further afield in Craven frequently have to travel long distances to secure hospital treatment. This should not be necessary, for Skipton is the natural centre of a huge area, and its hospital services should therefore be expanded. The demand exists and there is space for expansion at the General, Maternity and Raikeswood Hospitals. In fact, the development of Skipton as a first class hospital centre is long overdue.

Notification of and Deaths from Infectious Diseases.

Disease Notified :	0 to 1	1 to 3	3 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 25	25 and over	Age unknown	Total cases notified	Cases adm. to hospital	Total Deaths
	1	3	5	10	15	25					
Scarlet Fever	Nil	1	1	2	1	Nil	Nil	Nil	5	3	-
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Measles	1	19	25	49	2	1	2	-	99	-	-
Whooping Cough	1	11	4	6	1	-	-	-	23	-	-

Disease Notified	Age Groups						Total cases notified	Cases ad. to hospital	Total Deaths
	0-5	5-15	15-45	45-65	65 and over	Age unknown			
Smallpox	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Typhoid	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Paratyphoid	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-	-	-	-	3	3	3	-
Pneumonia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7
Erysipelas	-	-	-	3	2	-	5	2	-
Cerebro-spinal Fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-
Dysentery	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Food Poisoning	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

8. Food Hygiene

As no notifications of food poisoning were received during the year, it is considered unlikely that any severe infections of this type occurred. Minor infections, whilst occurring more frequently, may not be brought to the notice of a doctor.

The district may therefore be considered fortunate as the standards of food storage, cleanliness and general hygiene are by no means entirely satisfactory; and until a higher standard is reached and maintained generally, the danger remains. Particularly as the practice of taking meals in hotels, cafes and canteens has now become a national habit, with a corresponding increase in the population at risk.

9. A Note on the School Health Service

The latest report of the Chief Medical Officer of the Ministry of Education contains the following paragraph. "However comprehensive may be the provision of health services for adults, it will always be true to say that the national health and standard of national physique are dependent to a large measure upon the health and physical condition of the children. It is clear that the years of school life present their own problems and however complete the health services for the adult population may be, it will still require to be supplemented by a school health service to deal with their special problems".

Experience in this Division of the West Riding shows that despite the introduction of the National Health Service, the need for a school health service is in no way diminished. Routine inspections have therefore been maintained, and continue to produce a variety of defects requiring treatment or observation which might otherwise have been neglected. Handicapped pupils and 'special' cases continue to receive supervision from doctors and school nurses, some of the more severely handicapped being admitted to boarding schools with special educational facilities.

The specialist clinics for ear, nose and throat cases, orthopaedic conditions, eye defects, child guidance and speech therapy have been continued along with the school clinics at Skipton and Barnoldswick; and a close liaison maintained at all times with the teachers, the family medical practitioners, chest physician, or other specialist concerned.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT.WATER SUPPLY.

The water undertaking is controlled by the Council, and is supervised by the Surveyor and Water Engineer. In addition to supplying the needs of the urban district, a bulk supply agreement is in operation with the Skipton Rural District Council to supply Embsay village; and negotiations for further bulk supplies are proceeding.

The reservoir is situated at the foot of Embsay Moor and it has a capacity of 175,426,500 gallons, and a top water level of 700 feet above ordnance datum. The area of the gathering ground is 663 acres, the depth of the reservoir is 56 feet, and the water area $26\frac{1}{2}$ acres.

The water is conveyed to the town by a 12" trunk main, and the average daily consumption in the urban area is approximately 646,000 gallons, and in Embsay village 35,000 gallons.

A filtration plant is installed, consisting of eight Candy Pressuro Filters, together with an apparatus for injecting Sulphate of Alumina and Hydrate of Lime. During the War a chlorination plant was installed and this is still in regular use.

The supply is sufficient for the needs of the district. Even after the period of drought experienced during the summer months, the lowest recording of water in the reservoir was 83,500,000 gallons, sufficient for 122 days supply.

The quality is indicated by the following results of samples:-

Bacteriological Reports.

Plato Count. Yoastrol Agar 2 days 37° C. per ml.	Probable number of coliform bacilli MacConkey 2 days 37° C. per 100 ml.	Approx. proportion of faecal and non-faecal coli - per cent	
		Faecal.	Non-faecal.
33	UNFILTERED AND UNCHLORINATED. 90	3.3	-

Plate Count. Yeastrol Agar 2 days 37° C. per ml.	Probable number of coliform bacilli MacConkey 2 days 37° C. per 100 ml.	Approx. proportion of faecal and non-faecal coli - per cent.	
		Faecal.	Non-faecal.
<u>FILTERED AND CHLORINATED.</u>			
0	0	0	0
1	0	0	0
0	0	0	0
3	0	0	0
4	0	0	0
7	1	-	100
0	0	0	0
47	0	0	0
9	0	0	0
2	0	0	0
0	0	0	0
4	0	0	0
1	0	0	0
45	0	0	0

PLUMBO SOLVENCY

	Lead content grains per gallon	pH Value
After standing in pipe for a measured period of half an hour	Nil	7.0
After standing in pipe all night	Nil	6.9

SWIMMING BATHS

There is a covered swimming bath and an open-air pool which are used by the general public. These were purchased by the Council in 1909. The covered bath is 25 yards long and 6 yards wide, and the depths vary from 4 feet to 6 feet. The pool is filled from Whinny Gill Reservoir, and is 300 feet long by 100 foot wide, varying in depth from 4 feet to 12 feet.

There is another swimming bath, which is situated on the Grammar School premises. It is only used by the students, and is controlled by the West Riding County Council. To ensure a reasonable standard of purity of the water a chlorination plant is installed, and is in regular use.

The covered swimming bath, belonging to the Council, has no chlorination plant installed, but the water is treated with chloros. Regular tests are made for the purpose of ascertaining the free chlorine content of the water.

In July, a report was made to the Health Committee of the Council expressing concern about the open-air bath. In the report it was pointed out that there were no means of chlorination; dust and debris were liable to enter the water and there was pollution from mud from the floor of the bath, resulting in heavy contamination. Attempts at chlorination were not practicable, as there was too heavy a volume, and it could not mix properly as there was no flow. The only satisfactory remedy would be to install a chlorination plant, and to render the bottom and sides. As a result the Council decided to close the bathing pool except during the height of the summer season, and that the Surveyor confer with the Medical Officer of Health with regard to the chlorination of the pool when it was in use.

The bacteriological results of samples of water taken from the covered bath and open-air pool were as follows:-

Plate Count. Yeastol Agar 2 days 37° C. per ml.	Probable number of coliform bacilli MacConkey 2 days 37° C. per 100 ml.	Approx. proportions of faecal and non-faecal coli - per cent.	
		Faecal	Non-faecal.
2	0	0	0
1	0	0	0
53	0	0	0
14	0	0	0
10	0	0	0
<u>COVERED BATH.</u>			
206	90	8	-
+ 300	35	-	100
+ 21	18	+ 100	-
+ 300	90	14	-
+ 300	160	7	-
+ 300	1	-	100
+ 300	1	100	-
<u>OPEN-AIR SWIMMING POOL.</u>			

SEWERAGE, DRAINAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

The town is provided with almost a complete system of sewerage. There was an extension of the sewers on the Horse Close Estate where the construction of Council houses is in progress. The length of new surface water sewers constructed was 140 yards of 18" concrete pipes.

The Sewage Disposal Works are under the supervision of the Council's Surveyor. The methods of treatment were satisfactory, and there were no complaints of pollution.

The Sanitary Inspectors are responsible for the supervision of all drainage work, except when such work is submitted on a building plan. The Surveyor is then responsible for the supervision.

The Inspectors made two hundred and ninety-three visits to properties, to inspect and test new and existing drains.

Closet Accommodation:

Practically the whole of the town is on the water-carriage system. With the exception of the outlying farms, there are only five pail closets. Four of these are situated near the centre of the town, and one on the outskirts. They are incapable of being converted owing to their position in relation to the sewer, but four pails are situated on properties which, at some future time, will be dealt with under the provisions of the Housing Act.

The approximate number of sanitary conveniences is: 4,253 fresh water-closets, 8 waste water-closets, 5 pail closets.

RIVERS AND STREAMS.

The West Riding Rivers Board is the supervising authority. The Sanitary Inspectors observed no instances of pollution, and no complaints were received by the department.

THE FOLLOWING REPORT IS FURNISHED BY
 THE CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR UNDER THE SANITARY
 OFFICERS OUTSIDE (LONDON) REGULATIONS, 1935.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

Summary of Inspections made during the year:

Factories -	Mechanical	108
	Non-mechanical	24
	Outworkers' Promises	<u>6</u>
		138
Workplaces		12
Shops Act		22
Smoke Observations		34
Offensive Trades		2
Rodent Control		96
Infectious Diseases - investigations		9
Schools		26
Drainage		293
Alleged filthy or verminous houses		23
Council Tips		60
Places of Public Entertainment,		
Public Houses, Refreshment Houses etc.		34
Food Promises		315
Dairies and Milk Distribution		55
Meat and other foods		454
Butchers' Shops		17
Samples:		
(a) Milk		56
(b) Ice-cream		41
(c) Water - Bacteriological		
1. Town's Supply		15
2. Swimming Baths		
Open-air	7	
Indoor	<u>5</u>	12
(d) Water - Plumbage		
1. Town's Supply		<u>2</u>
		126
Premises:		
Public Health & Housing Acts		
(including re-visits)		<u>2,292</u>
		4,008
Interviews on premises with owners, agents and contractors		230
Complaints received		203
Informal Notices under the Public Health & Housing Acts, 1949		138
Informal Notices under the Public Health & Housing Acts, outstanding 31st December, 1948.		202

Informal Notices requiring abatement in 1949	340
Informal Notices abated in 1949	218
Informal Notices outstanding 31st. December, 1949	122
Statutory Notices served in 1949	76
Statutory Notices outstanding 31st. December, 1948	1
Statutory Notices complied with in 1949	46
Statutory Notices partly complied with in 1949	17
Statutory Notices outstanding 31st. December, 1949 (including notices partly complied with)	31
Defects outstanding, 31st. December, 1948	489
Defects found in 1949	312
Total defects requiring abatement	801
Total defects abated during 1949	515
Total defects outstanding, 31st. December, 1949	286

WORK CARRIED OUT UNDER THE
SUPERVISION OF THE INSPECTORS.

(Not including improvements in Factories and
Food Premises.)

Hopper type water-closets converted to pedestal type water-closets	43
Additional water-closets provided	16
House drains reconstructed	7
Defective and choked drains released and repaired	17
Water-closet pedestals re-placed	7
Water-closet flush pipes, cisterns and connections made good	19
Water-closet apartment walls, floors, roofs, seats and doors made good	22
Bath and sink waste-pipes repaired or renewed	11
New sinks installed	9
Rain-water pipes and eaves-troughings repaired or renewed	49
Defective dustbins replaced	30
Dustbins provided in lieu of ashpits	66
Burst water-pipes repaired	2
Doors repaired and thresholds provided	12
Floors repaired or renewed	27
Walls and ceilings plastered	32
House roofs repaired	34
Chimney stacks re-built, pointed and new pots provided	7
House walls cement pointed or cement rendered	20
Out-buildings repaired and re-roofed	14
New windows provided or windows repaired	78
Yards and passages re-laid or repaired	15
Fire-ranges renewed, repaired and fire-backs re-set	6
Filthy and verminous houses cleansed and disinfested	4
Pig sties cleansed	2
Miscellaneous	11

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 and 1948.PART 1 OF THE ACT.1. INSPECTIONS for the purpose of provisions as to health
(including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors.)

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(1) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4, and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	17	24	4	Nil
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	71	108	12	Nil
(3) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers' premises)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Total.. . . .	88	132	16	Nil

2. - Cases in which DEFECTS were found.

Particulars	Out-standing December 1948	Number of cases in which defects were found		Number of cases in which pro- secutions were instituted
		1949 Found	Remedied	
Want of cleanliness (S.1.)	1	1	2	Nil
Overcrowding (S.2.)	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (S.3.)	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (S.4.)	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6.)	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences: (S.7.)				
(a) insufficient	1	4	2	Nil
(b) unsuitable or defective	14	14	26	Nil
(c) not separate for sexes	3	7	5	Nil
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to outwork)	-	-	-	-
Total.. . . .	19	26	35	Nil

The work carried out included, in addition to the construction of more sanitary accommodation at four factories, the reconstruction of the conveniences at three premises, repairs, provision of artificial lighting and intervening ventilated spaces to sanitary conveniences at sixteen factories.

There has been an improvement in the cleanliness of sanitary conveniences. In most cases the occupiers were co-operative, and had a desire to provide satisfactory and clean accommodation for the use of the employees, but it was observed that some of the employees did not assist in maintaining the standard of cleanliness expected.

OUTWORKERS:

There are three outworkers' premises on the register, and in each case the work is associated with textile weaving. Six inspections were made and the premises were found to be clean and satisfactory.

WORKPLACES:

Twelve inspections were made of these premises regarding the sufficiency of sanitary conveniences and adequacy of ventilation and the prevention of overcrowding. At one office the sanitary accommodation was found to be insufficient, and on request additional accommodation was provided.

The following contraventions, outstanding from 1948, were given attention:-

Sanitary Conveniences:

Insufficient	4
Not marked as to sex of user	1
Inadequate ventilation	2

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

The collection and disposal of refuse is under the supervision of the Chief Sanitary Inspector, and the Council's own employees are engaged on the work.

Three 7 cubic yards "Karrion" Bantams are in full service. One new vehicle was purchased, and one vehicle was re-conditioned and retained for relief work during heavy collection periods. It was only possible to make use of the additional vehicle for a period of fourteen days.

The establishment of the department is three motor drivers and nine ashmen. The town is divided into three collection districts, and a team comprising a driver and two ashmen, is responsible for the collection of refuse in each district. One workman acts as tipman, and two workmen are engaged on salvage work, and relief work on the districts.

It has been very difficult to maintain a reasonable collection service owing to the shortage of labour, repeated changes of staff, sickness, a reduced working week, and the increase in the amount of refuse. In addition, there is now refuse to collect from a further 147 houses. These houses are of a type which entail carrying long distances. New houses will increase in number, and it is felt that the use of more refuse vehicles and workmen will not achieve the desired results. A more economic and efficient method would be the complete abolition of all ashpits and the provision of dustbins. In addition, it would greatly assist if more care were exercised by householders as to the type of refuse they put out for collection. It has been observed, particularly in the case of ashpits, that every type of offensive refuse is deposited in them. This practice impedes the workmen in the execution of their duties, and tends to make the work nauseating. Dustbins are more speedily emptied and more hygienic. There is also less tendency for dustbins to be used for offensive material, contractors' refuse, wall paper stripings and garden refuse.

Controlled tipping is in operation on land situated off Carleton Road and Ings Lane. A further tip is in use in the Shortbank Road district. This tip is only used for the disposal of dye and contractors' refuse.

The department was instrumental in arranging for eighteen ashpits to be replaced by sixty-six dustbins. The refuse accommodation at the end of the year was as follows: approximately 951 ashpits and 3,146 dustbins.

The Council has undertaken the collection of Trade refuse. Traders are required to enter into an agreement with the Council to pay a fixed quarterly charge for collection, based on an amount of refuse to be agreed upon in advance. A special charge is made to persons wishing to use the Council's tips for the deposit of refuse.

Salvage:

In June, the Board of Trade notified local authorities of the existence of surplus stocks of waste paper. Some authorities had difficulty in disposing of these stocks, but these conditions did not affect the sales of this local authority until after the Board of Trade decided to remove the compulsory salvage obligations by the cancellation of the existing Directions under the various Regulations. In July, the Paper Merchants notified the department that the price per ton would be reduced from £6. 7s. 6d. to £3. 10s.

The department continued with the baling of paper, but the only real advantage derived from this work was that it was a satisfactory method of disposal, and the alternative to the expenditure that would be incurred in employing any other method.

The scheme is still in operation for the collection of kitchen waste. There are two hundred and eighty kitchen waste bins deposited in the district, and those are provided by a pig-keeper.

The collection of salvage and kitchen waste showed the following results:-

<u>Description</u>	<u>Weight</u>			<u>Income</u>		
	T.	C.	Q.	Lbs.	1st.Jan.-31st.Dec.1949.	£. S. D.
Baled waste paper	118.	16.	3.	0.		
Rags		14.	1.	0.		
Black Scrap	1.	18.	1.	24.		
Metals		5.	1.	7.		
String		5.	0.	0.		
Bottles & Jars		1.	0.	0.		
Kitchen Waste (Approx)	110.	0.	0.	0.		
	232.	0.	3.	3.		
Sale of salvage ... ... ... ... ...				...	697.	14. 6.
Board of Trade increased collection allowance				...	37.	15. 3.
					735.	9. 9.

COST OF REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

1st. April 1948 - 31st. March 1949.

These figures are calculated on a statement furnished by the Treasurer to the Council.

LOADS OF REFUSE REMOVED..	<u>1948-49</u>		<u>1947-48</u>	
					1,741	1,619	1,741	1,619

<u>EXPENDITURE</u>	<u>£. S. d.</u>	<u>£. S. d.</u>	<u>£. S. d.</u>
Wages	2,345. 17. 2.		
Sick Pay and Holiday Pay	230. 7. 7.		
National Insurance	94. 10. 6.		
Superannuation contributions	65. 11. 6.		
Additional superannuation allowances	19. 9. 4.		
Motor vehicles, repair & maintenance	377. 17. 4.		
Renewals contribution, motor vehicles	280. 0. 0.		
Rent, licences and insurances	117. 3. 4.		
Lighting & heating, motor vehicles	1. 0.		
Implements & tools	16. 1. 1.		
Insurance	10. 0. 0.		
Water - motor vehicles	3. 0. 0.		
Other expenses - motor vehicles	5. 2. 8.		
Salvage expenses, wagons & materials	439. 14. 6.	4,004. 16. 0.	

	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
brought forward:-							4,004.	16.	0.

REFUSE DISPOSAL - TIP:EXPENDITURE.

Wages	261.	12.	0.
Sick Pay & Holiday Pay	42.	14.	3.
National Insurance	10.	15.	4.
Superannuation contributions	3.	16.	1.
Repair & maintenance	19.	3.	7.
Rent, rates & insurance	82.	10.	11.
			<u>420. 12. 2.</u>

GROSS COST	4,425.	8.	2.
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REFUSE COLLECTION.INCOME.

Charges, trade refuse removal	113.	18.	3.
<u>Salvage:</u>			
Waste paper	771.	14.	2.
Other salvage	38.	7.	10.
Board of Trade grant	18.	13.	0.
Kitchon waste	50.	0.	0.
			<u>878. 15. 0.</u>
			992. 13. 3.

REFUSE DISPOSAL.INCOME.

Tip - rents & tipping charges	<u>79.</u>	<u>13.</u>	<u>10.</u>	<u>79.</u>	<u>13.</u>	<u>10.</u>	<u>1,072.</u>	<u>7.</u>	<u>1.</u>
	NETT COST	..	..	..	..	..	<u>3,353.</u>	<u>1.</u>	<u>1.</u>
							<u>1948-49</u>	<u>1947-48</u>	
							£.	s.	d.
Average nett cost per load	..	..	..	1.	18.	6.2	1.	19.	8.4
Average nett cost per ton	..	..	..				19.	3.1	19. 10.2
(1 load estimated to weigh 2 tons.)									

COMMON LODGING HOUSES.

There are no registered common lodging-houses in the district.

RODENT CONTROL.

Immediate attention is given to complaints of the presence of rats and mice on premises.

A 10% test was carried out on the Council's sewers. Twenty-three manholes were pre-baited, and none of the bait was taken.

The Council's refuse tip was treated on two occasions. Thirty-two and twenty-two pre-baits of sausage rusk were laid, followed by the same number of poison-baits of a mixture of sausage rusk and zinc phosphide. According to the Ministry's Tables, the estimated kills were 165 and 90 rats respectively.

The following premises were also treated with satisfactory results:-

Houses in course of construction	1
Business premises	1
Allotments	2
Domestic premises	1
Office store	1

OFFENSIVE TRADES.

Registered Premises:-

Rag and Bone Dealer	1
Tripe Boiler	1

The Rag and Bone Dealer's premises were found to be clean and conducted in a most satisfactory manner.

The Tripe Boiler's premises are part of the Council's Slaughterhouse buildings, and are under the constant supervision of the Inspector engaged on meat inspection duties.

SMOKE ABATEMENT.

Thirty-four observations of smoke emitted from the twelve factory chimneys in the urban area were made.

The byelaws were contravened on one occasion. At the completion of the observation the boiler-house was visited, and the contravention was confirmed in writing. Subsequent observations of the chimney showed no recurrence of the nuisance.

Atmospheric Pollution:

A six litre bottle is deposited at the rear of the Town Hall, and the contents are sent to the West Riding County Public Analyst for examination.

The monthly analyses showed that the average soot deposit in tons per square mile was 15.3

SHOPS.

Twenty-two inspections were made under the provisions of Section 10 of the Shops Act, 1934. This authority is responsible for the administering of the provisions in relation to the sufficiency of sanitary conveniences, adequacy of ventilation, and means to maintain a reasonable temperature.

The following table shews the contraventions found and action taken to comply:

<u>Sheps.</u>			
	<u>Outstanding</u> <u>1948</u>	<u>Found</u>	<u>Abated</u> <u>1949.</u>
Sub.section 1(b) No means provided to maintain a reasonable temperature	2	-	2
Sub.section 2 Insufficient sanitary conveniences	3	5	3

TENTS, VANS AND SHEDS.

There were no tents, vans or sheds used for human habitation which came within the provisions of section 268 and 269 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

PLACES OF PUBLIC ENTERTAINMENT.

(REFRESHMENT HOUSES, PUBLIC HOUSES, etc.)

A local authority may by notice under Section 89 of the Public Health Act, 1936, require the owner or occupier of any inn, public house, beer-house, refreshment house or place of public entertainment, to provide and maintain in a suitable position such number of sanitary conveniences for the use of persons frequenting the premises as may be reasonable.

Eleven premises were found to be satisfactory, and six unsatisfactory, on the following grounds:-

Insufficient and defective sanitary conveniences	6
Defective sanitary conveniences	1

The insufficient and defective conveniences were all found at inns in the district, and the defective convenience at a refreshment house. A new modern sanitary annex was constructed at one inn, and the reconstruction of the sanitary conveniences at another were nearing completion at the end of the year. Architects and contractors had the requirements in hand at three premises.

The sanitary conveniences at the refreshment house were made satisfactory.

SCHOOLS.

There are two grammar schools, one private school, one art school and technical institute, one secondary modern, two primary and three junior mixed and infant schools. Twenty-six inspections were made, excluding those visits made by the Medical Officer of Health.

There was a number of outstanding requirements at the end of 1948, which were given attention in the early part of 1949.

The sanitary conveniences at one primary school were found to be defective and dirty. The school managers were notified, and the department was given an assurance that the work would be given attention.

The general standard of cleanliness showed an improvement over the previous year.

FILTHY OR VERMINOUS PREMISES.

Twenty-three inspections were made of alleged filthy and verminous houses. Four houses were found to be infested with bed bugs, and these were treated under the supervision of the department. An insecticide, containing 5% D.D.T., was used with very successful results.

HOUSING.

More progress was made in the carrying out of essential repairs to houses under the provisions of the Housing and Public Health Acts. The position in the supply of labour and materials was somewhat easier, but there is still a reluctance on the part of owners to carry out repairs because of increased costs without corresponding adjustment of rents. These conditions greatly add to the difficulties of the department, and they are made more evident by the increased number of statutory notices which had to be served.

Although there is a large number of houses which fall within the scope of the provisions of the Housing Act, it has not been practicable to carry out major reconditioning or demolition of properties, owing to the position in the building trade, and the necessity for concentration on the erection of new houses. It is felt that if the provisions of the Housing Act, 1949, are exercised to the full they will make a substantial contribution to the improvement of a number of the existing properties.

Eighty-three Council houses of the three bedroom type were completed, making a total of one hundred and forty-seven houses erected in the post-war years. The method of letting Council houses is by a carefully prepared points scheme. The scheme was revised, as a result of previous experience, in order to ensure that priority of lettings would be made to applicants considered in the greatest need i.e. families living in rooms and in overcrowded conditions.

Six hundred and seventy-six visits were made by members of the department for the purpose of collating information on overcrowding and structural conditions of dwellings occupied by housing applicants.

The number of applicants on the list at the end of the year was:-

Families without separate homes	234
Families with separate homes	<u>138</u> 372
Bungalows	58

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

MIK SUPPLY.

Number of dairies used for the processing, handling and distribution of milk	1
Number of milk distributors on the register	15

Registered by the Ministry of Agriculture:-

Number of dairy farmers and distributors in the Urban area	2
Number of dairy farmers, outside the Urban area, who distribute milk in the area	7

Food & Drugs Act, 1938:

Milk (Special Designations) (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949.

Licence to use the designation "Tuberculin Tested" in relation to milk received in bulk and bottled on the premises	1
---	---

Licences to use the designation "Tuberculin Tested" in relation to milk obtained in bottles & retailed in the area	13
--	----

Milk (Special Designations) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations, 1949.

Licences to use the designation "Pasteurised" in relation to milk obtained in bottles and retailed in the area	6
--	---

On the 1st. October, 1949, the Food and Drugs (Milk and Dairies) Act, 1944, and the Milk (Special Designations) Act, 1949, came into operation. On the same date the Milk & Dairies Regulations, 1949, Milk (Special Designations) (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949, and the Milk (Special Designations) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations, 1949, also became law. The supervision of the production of milk is now the responsibility of the Minister of Agriculture, and local authorities retain the responsibility for the supervision of the distribution of milk. The Food and Drugs Authority, which is the County Council, now carries out the licensing and supervision of the heat treatment of milk. The supervision of the handling, bottling and sale of tuberculin tested, and the sale of heat treated milk is the responsibility of local authorities.

As there were only seven milk producing farms in the Urban Area, the introduction of the new legislation has not materially affected the work of the department.

Fifty-five visits were made in the supervision of the production, handling and distribution of milk. All of the distributors, except one, cleanse their churns, hand-cans etc., at the place of production or at a local dairy. This dairy receives milk from producers in Skipton and district. The ungraded milk is pasteurised by the "high temperature short time process", and sold to retailers in the area and some of the larger towns. Tuberculin tested milk is also received in bulk, and bottled raw or processed. In December, 1948, on considering the applications for the renewal of licences, the Council was concerned about the unsatisfactory reports submitted as to the general cleanliness, and the arrangements made for the handling of tuberculin tested milk at this dairy, and as a result the licence was refused. The Directors of the dairy company made representations to the Health Committee of the Council, and gave an undertaking that extensive alterations would be carried out, additional plant installed, and that the general standard of cleanliness would improve. The Council agreed to accept the undertaking and granted a licence. Although an architect was instructed to prepare plans for the proposed extension, the method of handling milk and the standard of cleanliness gradually deteriorated. Further warnings were given, but with very little effect. As a result, a special report was made to the Health Committee of the Council, and it was decided to consider the revocation of the licence to bottle tuberculin tested milk. Representations were made by the company at a special meeting of the Health Committee held on the 17th. October, 1949. After the hearing the Health Committee was satisfied that there had been a breach of the conditions of licence, and consequently the licence was revoked. The company appealed to the Ministry of Food, and a decision on the appeal had not been decided at the end of the year.

The following samples were submitted to the bacteriologist for examination. On receiving unsatisfactory reports, investigations were made, and afterwards further samples were obtained:-

BACTERIOLOGICAL.UNGRADED MILK.

Number of samples	25
Number of the standard of accredited milk	15
Number not to standard of accredited milk	10

ACCREDITED MILK.

Number of samples	1
Number satisfactory	1
Number unsatisfactory	-

TUBERCULIN TESTED MILK.

Number of samples	21
Number satisfactory	15
Number unsatisfactory	6

PASTEURISED MILK.

Number of samples	9
Number satisfying Phosphatase Test	7
Number satisfying Methylene Blue Test	6

BIOLOGICAL

Number of samples	18
Number showing evidence of tubercle bacilli	Nil

Samples taken by Officers of the West Riding
County Council

BACTERIOLOGICAL.TUBERCULIN TESTED MILK.

Number of samples	5
Number satisfactory	3
Number unsatisfactory	2

PASTEURISED MILK.

Number of samples	23
Number satisfying Phosphatase Test	22
Number satisfying Methylene Blue Test	18

MEAT.

The slaughtering of animals for human consumption for the districts of Skipton, Barnoldswick and Earby Urban, and Skipton Rural is centred in Skipton. The meat inspection duties are carried out by the Sanitary Inspectors of this authority.

The carcases of the following animals were inspected:-

	Received from Collecting Centre	Casualties	Casualties received as dressed carcases	Total 1949	Total 1948
Cattle (excluding cows)	1,542	92	2	1,636	1,574
Cows	450	275	-	725	724
Calves	1,285	201	2	1,488	1,363
Sheep and lambs	7,754	356	12	8,122	6,871
Pigs	56	138	36	230	185

The above figures do not include a hundred and nine pigs slaughtered under licences from the Ministry of Food.

CARCASES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED.

	Cattle excluding cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed and inspected	1,636	725	1,488	8,122	230
<u>All diseases except</u> <u>tuberculosis</u>					
Whole carcases condemned	15	45	73	88	3
Carcasses of which some part was condemned	16	34	3	14	4
Percentage of the number of carcases inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis	1.28	10.89	5.1	1.25	3.05

CARCASES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED.continued.

	Cattle excluding cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
<u>Tuberculosis only.</u>					
Whole carcasos condemned	12	26	3	-	2
Carcases of which some part was condemned	7	10	-	-	13
Percentage of the number of carcases inspected affected with tuberculosis	1.16	4.96	.20	-	6.52

WEIGHT OF MEAT AND ORGANS CONDEMNED.

	From Collecting Centre	Per Cent	Casualties	Per Cent.	T. C. Q. Lbs.
Cattle:					
Carcases	12	.6	86	23.3	15. 10. 1. 13.
Portions of beef	27	1.3	40	10.84	2. 0. 3. 19.
Calves:					
Carcases	29	2.25	47	23.15	1. 4. 2. 26.
Portions of veal	-	-	3	1.47	2. 23.
Sheep & Lambs:					
Carcases	11	.14	77	20.9	1. 3. 3. 6.
Portions of mutton	-	-	14	3.8	3. 6.
Pigs:					
Carcases	-	-	5	2.81	6. 2. 19.
Portions of pork	8	14.46	9	5.17	2. 1. 19.
Hoads and tongues of all animals:	-	-	-	-	3. 1. 0. 6.
Edible organs and fat:	-	-	-	-	16. 6. 2. 22.
					39. 18. 0. 19.
					T. C. Q. Lbs.
Imported Beef	...	...	...	...	3. 0. 18.
Corned Beef	...	...	...	...	4. 3. 12.

OTHER FOODS FOUND UNFIT FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION.Food in tins and glass containers:

Milk	Vegetables	Jam	Fish	Fruit	Meat	Soup	Stew	Meat & Veg.	Miscellaneous
238	140	11	79	89	64	21	12	4	106

Other food:

Almond Cream Nougat..	..	2	lbs.
Cod .. .. .. ..	..	19	stones.
Cheese .. .. .. ..	..	11	lbs.
Custard Powder ..	..	56	packets
Dates .. .. .. ..	..	3	boxes
Flour .. .. .. ..	..	60	lbs.
Frozen rabbits ..	..	60	lbs.
Mushrooms .. .. .. ..	..	16	lbs.
Pressed Chicken..	..	5	
Rice .. .. .. ..	..	112	lbs.
Sweetphat .. .. .. ..	..	280	lbs.
Suet .. .. .. ..	..	18	lbs.
Sultanas .. .. .. ..	..	27	lbs.
Sponge Pudding Mixture ..	..	36	packets.

SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT, 1933.

There are forty-three licenced slaughtermen on the register. On the 1st. March, 1947, Section 1 of the Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933 was brought into operation for the compulsory stunning of sheep with a mechanically operated instrument. The Council purchased electrical stunning apparatus, and the Slaughterhouse Attendant stuns all sheep and lambs. The slaughtermen carry out the stunning of all other animals.

No contraventions of the provisions of the Act came to the notice of the Inspectors.

RETAIL SHOPS AND STALLS.

Seventeen visits were made and the standard of cleanliness was found to be good.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938.

Every attempt was made by the department to improve the standard of hygiene under which food, including ice-cream, is prepared, stored, or sold. The Health Committee of the Council gave every support in the action taken to improve conditions, and welcomed the issue of the Model Byelaws of the Ministry of Food relating to the observance of sanitary and cleanly conditions in connection with the handling, wrapping and delivery of food, and sale of food in the open-air. Draft byelaws were approved by the Council and submitted to the Minister of Food for his confirmation. Whilst these byelaws are not as far reaching as one may desire, they are, nevertheless, a step in the right direction, particularly, as far as the sale of food in the open-air is concerned.

The department realised the potential dangers from food being handled in an unsatisfactory manner on fair-grounds and at galas. As the handling of food under such conditions cannot be controlled under the provisions of Section 13 of the Food and Drugs Act, an approach was made to the organisers of these events and in every case their whole-hearted co-operation was secured. Arrangements were made that persons wishing to sell food, including ice-cream, should first receive the approval of the department as to their equipment and general arrangements.

Three hundred and fifteen inspections were made of food premises under the following headings:-

Inspections.

1. Manufacturers of potted, pressed, pickled or preserved foods	35
2. Ice-cream premises	78
3. Bakehouses	68
4. Hotels and Restaurants	56
5. Fish Fryers	31
6. General Food Shops	47

1. Preserved Foods.

Registered Premises	8
---------------------	---

These premises were found to be in a satisfactory condition, and no contraventions of the provisions of Section 13 were observed.

2. Ice-Cream.

Registered Premises:

Manufacture, Storage and Sale:

Hot Mix process	2	
Cold Mix process	<u>4</u>	6
Storage and Sale		17

The premises producing ice-cream by the hot mix process are now fully equipped to comply with the Ice-Cream (Heat Treatment etc.) Regulations. At one of the factories considerable trouble was caused by contamination in the plant, giving rise to a series of samples falling within Provisional Grade 4. After taking samples at the varying stages of production, and making a detailed examination of the plant, methods of cleansing etc., the point of contamination was traced. Subsequent samples were taken, and the results were satisfactory.

One producer of ice-cream, by the cold mix process, was found on investigation to be allowing the mixture to stand for varying periods before freezing thus giving rise to unsatisfactory samples. After being informed of his neglect in the treatment of the mixture, the error was rectified, and there were no further grounds for complaint.

Special attention was given to the supervision of premises used for the retail sale of ice-cream. At all registered premises ice-cream was stored and sold from refrigerators. Two vendors were warned for not observing a satisfactory standard of cleanliness in handling, and one for having dirty utensils and refrigerator.

Six premises were found not to have satisfactory washing facilities. Wash-hand basins with a constant supply of hot and cold water were provided in all cases.

In the majority of cases the manufacturers were very co-operative, and expressed a desire to produce a clean commodity.

Forty-one samples were submitted for bacteriological examination, and the following were the results:-

Class of Mix	Provisional Grade			
	1.	2.	3.	4.
Heat-treated	15	4	2	15
Cold	3	-	-	2

3. Bakehouses.

The general standard of cleanliness of these premises was found to be satisfactory, and at all times the occupiers attempted to comply to the full with the provisions of the Act.

4. Hotels and Restaurants.

The following are details of the action taken relating to contraventions found:-

	<u>Outstanding</u> <u>1948</u>	<u>Found</u> <u>1949</u>	<u>Remedied.</u>
1. Walls and ceilings requiring scraping, and whitewashing or cleansing	2	4	3
2. Walls, ceilings, floors etc., not in a proper state of repair	4	3	6

	<u>Outstanding</u> <u>1948</u>	<u>Found</u> <u>1949</u>	<u>Remedied</u>
3. Insufficiont ventilation of rooms	1	3	2
4. Lack of cleanliness of room and utensils	-	1	1
5. Inadequate washing facilities	-	1	1
6. Inlet to drain in room	-	1	1

5. Fish Fryers.

There are eleven persons carrying on the trade of fish-frying. One of the premises had unsatisfactory arrangements for the preparation of food. A notice was served on the occupier, requiring the provision of a more satisfactory building. Plans of a proposed new structure were submitted to the Council, in compliance with the requirements of the department. There is one mobile fish-frying van operating in the district. The premises used by the person operating the van were found to be totally unsatisfactory. A notice was servod on the occupier, and as a result alternative premises were provided in compliance with the provisions of the Act.

The other premises were maintained in a clean and satisfactory condition.

6. General Food Shops.

Those include all types of premises used for the storage and sale of food.

The following contravontions were found and brought to the notice of occupiers:-

	<u>Outstanding</u> <u>1948</u>	<u>Found</u> <u>1949</u>	<u>Remedied.</u>
1. Walls, ceilings, floors etc., not in a proper state of repair	1	7	2
2. Walls and ceilings requiring scraping and whitewashing or cleansing	-	7	1
3. Lack of cleanliness of rooms and utensils	1	-	1
4. Inadequate washing facilitios	2	10	4
5. Inlet to drain in room	-	1	-

At the ond of the year instructions had been given to contractors to carry out all the outstanding requirements.

WEST RIDING COUNTY COUNCIL

DIVISION No.1.

Annual Report of the Divisional Medical Officer,
for the Year 1949.

CONTENTS:

1. General Description.
2. Divisional Staff.
3. Health Centres.
4. Care of Mothers and Young Children.
5. Midwifery Services.
6. Health Visiting.
7. Home Nursing.
8. Vaccination and Immunisation.
9. Ambulance Service.
10. Mental Health Service.
11. Home Help Service.
12. Prevention of Illness and After Care.
13. National Assistance Act 1948 - Welfare Services.

1. General Description.

The division consists of the following districts:-

	<u>Population</u>	<u>Area in Acres.</u>
Silsden Urban District	5,858	7,101
Earby Urban District	5,209	3,518
Barnoldswick Urban District	10,440	2,764
Skipton Urban District	13,340	4,211
Skipton Rural District	23,600	146,087

Social conditions vary therefore from densely populated small towns to sparsely inhabited rural areas; and those differences accentuate the difficulties of administration.

Despite a certain amount of building, housing is still a great problem and many people are living in very overcrowded and unsatisfactory conditions. The ill effects which result, both physical and psychological, are profound and far reaching. This is particularly unfortunate when there is full employment available for men and women, and when they are in a position to increase their standard of living by the purchase of food, clothing and furniture.

2. Divisional Staff, as at 31st. December, 1949.

(1) Medical Officers.

M. Hunter	M.B.E., M.D., D.P.H.,	Divisional Medical Officer.
B.M. Leakey	M.B., B.S.,	Assistant County Medical Officer.
D. Tillotson	M.B., Ch. B.)
A.B. Morrison	M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.)
G.D.G. Cameron	M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.)
L. Symons	M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.)

Clinic doctors
working on
sessional basis.

(2) Other Officers on Divisional Establishment.

(a) Professional and Technical Staff.

Health Visitors/School Nurses	9
School Nurses (Part Time)	1
Home Nurses (Whole Time)	4
" " (Part Time)	1
Home Nurse/Midwives (Full Time)	5
" " " (Part Time)	1
Home Nurse/Midwives/Health Visitors	3
Midwives	4

Other Officers - continued.

Ø Tuberculosis Health Visitor	1
Ø Mental Health Worker	1
Ø Venereal Diseases Social Worker	1
Duly Authorised Officer	1

(Ø indicates part time in No.1. Division.)

(b) Day Nursery Staff.

Matron	1
Deputy Matron	1
Nursery Assistants	4
Nursery Students	3
Cooks and Domestics	4

(c) Administrative and Clerical Staff.

Administrative (Chief Clerk)	1
Clerical	6

(d) Home Helps.

Full Time	11
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(e) Other Domestic Staff.

Part Time	3
Total Divisional Staff	66

The Division has been fortunate in having a fairly full complement of staff throughout the year, due partly no doubt to its attractive surroundings. Monthly staff conferences have again been held during the year, and have done much to stimulate enthusiasm, retain interest, and increase co-operation in our work. Although the health and medical services are today the concern of many individuals, agencies and authorities, co-operation must be the keynote if the community is to derive the maximum benefit from those services. It is therefore our aim to offer all possible assistance to patients, general practitioners, and the hospitals, and considerable progress has been made in this direction during the year.

Although the district sanitary inspectors are not employed by the County Council, existing arrangements permit a most satisfactory integration of the health services provided by the Local Authorities and by the County Council.

3. Health Centres.

Under the National Health Service Act the County Council (as the local health authority) is responsible for the provision, equipment and maintenance of health centres, and the provision of staff other than medical practitioners. Throughout the country generally very little action has been taken to implement this responsibility; nor is it likely to be until our economic position improves. Although all our clinics are held in buildings quite unsuited for the purpose, it is therefore likely to be some considerable time before we possess even one modern clinic. Lack of space and poor clinic facilities greatly increase the work of the staff, and reduce the value of the clinics; but despite this, the attendances have increased in most cases and much valuable work has been done.

The divisional health office premises are also far from satisfactory, and the acquisition of a building which could also be used as a central clinic would provide a solution to many existing difficulties.

4. MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.(a) BIRTHS.

Public Health Act 1936 - Section 203.

Return of births notified in the Divisional Area during the period 1st. January to 31st. December.

Details	Domiciliary		Institutional		Total
	Live	Still	Live	Still	
(a) Primary Notifications	298	5	304	5	612
(b) Add Inward Transfers	-	-	257	12	269
(c) Total Notifications Received	298	5	561	17	881
(d) Deduct Outward Transfers	2	-	70	1	73
(e) Total Adjusted Births	296	5	491	16	808

(b) INFANT WELFARE CENTRES.

Name and Address of Centre	Number of Infant Welfare Sessions now held per month	Number of children who attended during the year	Number of Children who first attended during the year and who on the date of their first attendances were:-	Number of Children included in column 3 who at the end of the year were:-			Total number of attendances made by children in column 3 during the year	
				Under lyr.	Over lyr.	Under lyr. Over lyr.		
1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.	8.	9.
Barnoldswick Methodist Hall	4	298	114	12	125	173	2,075	893
Earby Old Grammar School	4	194	90	10	75	119	1,203	465
Gargrave The Institute	2	25	12	13	12	13	16	22
Crosshills Ebeneezer Sunday School	2	249	92	8	89	160	1,225	586
Grassington Church House	2	110	18	20	16	94	466	321
Silsden Kirkgate Sunday School	2	149	56	16	69	80	1,016	356
Skipton Water St. School	4	488	170	79	162	326	3,012	1,566

(✓ This Centre opened on the 1st. December.)

(c) ANTE-NATAL AND POST-NATAL CLINICS.

Name and Address of Clinic	No. of Sessions now hold por month	No. of women in attondance		Total No. of attend-ances made by woman during the year.
		No. of women who attond-od during tho year	No. of women in previous column who had <u>not</u> pre-viously attended an A/N clinic during pregnancy or a post-natal clinic after last confinement	
Grassington, Church House, Grassington	1	20	20	47
Skipton, Water St. School, Skipton	2	48	44	153
Earby, Old Grammar School, Earby.	1	38	38	160
Barnoldswick, Methodist Hall, Barnoldswick.	2	125	90	356
Silsden, Kirkgato Methodist Sunday School, Silsden.	2	20	19	117
Crosshills, Ebeneezer Sunday School, Crosshills.	2	54	42	265

(d) Ante Natal Hostel.

The County Council's Hostel at Brighouse has been available for expectant mothers requiring rest rather than special forms of treatment, and a number of patients have been admitted from the division during the year.

(e) Dental Care.

In the absence of a dental clinic and an adequate staff, expectant mothers in need of treatment have been referred to local practitioners who agreed to co-operate with the County Council in this work.

Their co-operation has been willingly given and I should like to put on record my appreciation of their services.

(f) Care of Premature Infants.

A premature infant is defined as one weighing $5\frac{1}{2}$ pounds or less at birth, irrespective of the period of gestation. Premature infants born in hospital or maternity home are cared for there. Those born at home may be admitted to hospital if conditions are unsuitable, but special equipment, clothing, oxygen etc., is maintained in the division for use in treating the premature babies at home, and is conveyed by ambulance on the midwife's request.

(g) Day Nurseries.

This service provides for the care of the young child whose mother is ill; the illegitimate child whose mother goes out to work; the children of parents living in conditions likely to be injurious to their health; the child of a widow who has to work to keep her family, and the children of mothers engaged in essential industry.

The Earby Nursery which has 40 places, has been open throughout the year, and has undertaken practical training for the syllabus of the National Nursery Examination Board.

Unfortunately the construction of the long awaited day nursery at Barnoldswick has not yet started. This is regrettable as there is a great demand for female workers in the town.

No night accommodation is available within the Division.

(h) Nurseries and Child Minders Regulation Act, 1948.

The supervision of nurseries, and homes where daily minders receive children for reward, is now the responsibility of the local health authority. Although a certain amount of daily minding is carried out in the Division, no registrations have been accepted as the number of children cared for has never reached the statutorily permitted number which makes registration compulsory.

(i) Care of Unmarried Mothers and their Children.

The County Medical Officer makes arrangements for admission to hospital, or hostel care in homes administered by voluntary bodies, when required. Patients in their own homes have the services of the midwives and health visitors.

For additional assistance in this important work we are especially indebted to Miss. Fielding, the Organising Secretary of the Bradford Diocesan Moral Welfare Council.

5. MIDWIFERY SERVICES

Although it is desirable to separate home nursing from midwifery where circumstances permit, it is difficult in rural areas. To do so would greatly increase the mileage covered by the staff, and perhaps be to the patients detriment.

Four whole-time midwives are therefore employed, and eight combine midwifery with home nursing. Where a doctor attends the confinement the midwife acts as maternity nurse.

Progress has been made in training midwives in the use of gas and air analgesia, and it is likely that all the midwives will be trained and equipped with apparatus by early 1950.

STATISTICS

(a) Number of Maternity cases in the Divisional area attended by Midwives during the year:-

	Domiciliary		Institutional		Total	
	As Mid- wives	As Matern- ity Nurses	As Mid- Wives	As Matern- ity Nurses	As Mid- wives	As Matern- ity Nurses
(1) Midwives employed by the Authority Whole-time:- 4 Nurses/Midwives:- 9	154	163	-	-	154	163
(2) Midwives employed by Voluntary Organisations	-	-	-	-	-	-
(3) Midwives employed by Hospital Management Committees:-	-	-	295	100	295	100
(4) Midwives in Private Practice:- (a) Nursing Home (b) Others	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	154	163	295	100	449	263

6. HEALTH VISITING

Health Visitors are provided for home visiting, for the purpose of giving advice as to the care of young children, persons suffering from illness and expectant or nursing mothers, and as to the measures necessary to prevent the spread of infection. Such are their duties under the National Health Service Act. In practice they do very much more in this Division, including attendance at the ante-natal, child welfare, and school clinics, work as school nurses, and following up patients discharged from hospital when required.

Having access to their homes, and the supervision of children from shortly after birth to the time when they leave school, the health visitor is in a position to exercise her skill and knowledge to the utmost in advising on a multitude of problems and promoting healthy living conditions in the families she visits. This work has been and remains, of the greatest value to the community.

STATISTICS.

Number of visits paid by Health Visitors during the year:-

	<u>First Visits</u>	<u>Total Visits.</u>
(1) Expectant Mothers	269	733
(2) Children under 1 year of age	967	6,276
(3) Children between the ages of 1 and 5	89	8,377
(4) Other classes	<u>425</u>	<u>1,074</u>
Totals	<u>1,750</u>	<u>16,460</u>

7. HOME NURSING

It is the County Council's duty to make provision in its area for securing the attendance of nurses on persons who require nursing in their own homes. This has been done by taking over the work of voluntary nursing associations, and organising a full time service of nurses and nurse-midwives, with a staff which has proved adequate to meet all demands in the Division.

The majority of nurses have cars, either their own or provided by the County Council. All are comfortably housed in either their own homes or houses provided by the County Council.

Relief is provided for off duty and holidays. Their working conditions are therefore good and they are in a position to give an efficient service.

A summary of the work done by the home nurses is as follows:-

(1) Number of visits paid by Home Nurses during the year	<u>28,017</u>
(2) Number of cases attended by Home Nurses during the year (Excluding midwifery and maternity cases)	<u>1,848</u>

Special sessions for dressings have not been held.

8. VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION

Under the National Health Service Act the local health authority has a statutory duty to make arrangements for persons in its area to be vaccinated against small pox and immunised against diphtheria. At the same time the Vaccination Acts were repealed and vaccination of infants ceased to be compulsory.

Vaccination is now offered to the parents within one month of the child's birth, and if desired is carried out by their medical practitioner or at a child welfare centre. The response has been disappointing, and every effort is being made to correct the illusion that the present relative freedom from outbreaks of small pox is a good reason for ceasing to vaccinate infants.

Better results have been obtained with diphtheria immunisation, which is carried out by the medical practitioners, at clinics and at school health inspections. Although there have been no cases of diphtheria during the year the aim of protecting 75% of all children against this disease has not been reached. And until it is, propaganda by every method available must be sustained.

A special monthly immunisation and vaccination clinic was opened in Skipton in August, this being additional to the facilities already in existence at all clinics.

Lymph for vaccination is available free of charge from the Public Health Laboratory, and diphtheria prophylactics from the Health Office. Immunisation against whooping cough has not been given through the local health authority's services, but may be available in the coming year if trials of a new vaccine come up to expectations.

STATISTICS

Diphtheria Immunisation.

(1) Number of children who completed a full course of primary immunisation (including temporary residents.)	Age at final injection.		
	Under 5	5 - 14	Total
	571	136	707

Statistics - Diphtheria Immunisation - continued.

		Age at final injection			Under	5	5 - 14	Total
		5	5 - 14	Total				
(2)	Total number of children who were given a secondary or re-inforcing injection. (i.e. subsequent to completion of full course).		-	691			691	

(3) Number of children at 31st. December who had completed a course of immunisation at any time before that date:-

Age at 31.12.49 i.e. born in year	Under 1 1949	1 1948	2 1947	3 1946	4 1945	5-9 1940-44	10-14 1935-39	Total under 15
Number immunised	15	345	588	508	416	496	61	2,429
Estimated mid-year child population		Children under 5 4,311				Children 5-14 6,957		
Percentage immunised		21.5%						

9. AMBULANCE SERVICES

During the year the ambulance service previously operated by the Skipton and District Motor Ambulance Committee was taken over by the County Council and a depot established at Burnside House. Eventually this will become the main depot for the Division.

Parishes in the southern part of the Division and Silsden Urban District are served by the County Council's depot at Keighley: with the exception of Addingham and Beamsley which are served by the Guisley depot. The remainder of the Division is covered by the Barnoldswick and Earby Urban District Council's ambulances, and the St. John's Ambulance Brigade vehicle at Grassington. These are operated on an agency basis for the County Council. This service is now free, and calls on it have increased greatly during the year. Despite this, an efficient service has been maintained.

10. MENTAL HEALTH

The functions devolving upon the Local Health Authority under existing legislation relating to mental treatment and mental deficiency are:-

- The appointment of duly authorised officers to take initial proceedings for removal to hospital of persons who are to be dealt with under the Lunacy and Mental Treatment Acts; functions previously exercised by Relieving Officers.

- (b) The duty under the Mental Deficiency Acts 1913-38 of ascertaining what persons in the area are defectives, providing suitable supervision for them, guardianship, or institutional care. And making arrangements for the provision of suitable training or occupation for defectives not in institutions.
- (c) The duty to make arrangements for the care and after care for persons suffering from mental illness or mental defectiveness, so far as provision is not otherwise made.
- (d) The provision of an ambulance service for the purpose of the mental health service.

(1) Mental Illness

The duly authorised officer has dealt with the following cases during the year:-

1. Number of cases certified under Section 16 of the Lunacy Act, 1890	14
2. Number of cases dealt with under Section 20	Nil
3. Number of cases dealt with under Section 21	Nil
4. Number of cases where assistance has been given in obtaining admission under Section 1 of the Mental Treatment Act	1
5. Cases dealt with under Section 2 of the Mental Treatment Act	Nil
6. Other cases referred for action, but where it was not found necessary to proceed under the Lunacy or Mental Treatment Acts	10

(2) Mental Deficiency

The services of a mental health social worker have been shared with Division 2 during the year, Miss. Wallace being succeeded by Miss. Hattersley in October. It has been their responsibility to supervise the defectives and to ensure that they are adequately controlled and cared for; to provide reports for mental hospitals on patients admitted, on licence, or discharged; and to provide similar information for mental deficiency institutions.

In addition, they have given valuable assistance to the Educational Psychologist in connection with his fortnightly Child Guidance Clinics organised under the School Health Service. Although this work is actually outside the terms of their appointment, it is a vitally important piece of social and preventive medicine which we are at present in a position to undertake.

These duties have left very little time for the training and teaching of defectives, and as yet there is no Occupation Centre in the area to undertake this work.

Great difficulty has again been experienced in securing accommodation for mental defectives, particularly the lowest grade types. This accommodation is provided by institutions under the control of the Regional Hospital Board, and they are all short of beds. However, vacancies for three of our worst cases were eventually found during the course of the year.

STATISTICS - MENTAL DEFICIENCY ACTS 1915 to 1958.

Particulars of mental defectives as on 1st. January, 1950.

1. Number of Ascertained Mental Defectives found to be "subject to be dealt with" :-

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
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(a) On Licence from Institutions

(Under 16 years of age)	-	-	-
(Age 16 years and over)	-	1	1

(b) Under Guardianship (including cases on licence therefrom)

(Under 16 years of age)	-	1	1
(Age 16 years and over)	5	-	5

(d) Under Statutory Supervision (excluding cases on licence)

(Under 16 years of age)	2	10	12
(Age 16 years and over)	26	15	41

No. of cases included in (b) to (d) above awaiting removal to an Institution

1	4	5
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2. Number of Mental Defectives not at present "subject to be dealt with", but over whom some form of voluntary supervision is maintained:-

(Under 16 years of age)	-	-	-
(Age 16 years and over)	4	1	5

3. Number of Mental Defectives receiving training:

(Under 16 years of age)	-	-	-
(Age 16 years and over)	-	-	-
(a) In day training centres.	-	-	-
(b) At home	-	1	1

Male	Female	Total
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4. Number of Mental Defectives in Institutions under community care including voluntary supervision or in 'places of safety' on 1st. January, 1949, who have ceased to be under any of these forms of care during 1949.

(a) Ceased to be under care	-	1	1
(b) Died, removal from area, or lost sight of.	-	-	-

11. HOME HELP SERVICE.

The object of this service is to provide assistance for the ill, the lying in, expectant mothers, the mentally defective, the aged, and for children of school age usually when the mother is in hospital.

By its provision, the effectiveness of the home nursing and midwifery services is increased, and the demand for hospital beds to some extent reduced. It is not a free service, but the scale which is operated for the recovery of fees is generous.

The Divisional allocation of home helps is eleven, either whole time or the equivalent in part time helps. Difficulty has been experienced in obtaining suitable staff, and this is likely to persist whilst full employment is available in more attractive occupations and trades. The allocation of home helps is insufficient to meet demands, and the administrative machinery is involved and cumbersome. Despite these difficulties, much useful work has been done, and many letters and messages of appreciation received.

The number of home helps employed on 31st. December was:-

(1) Whole Time	11
(2) Part Time	6

The number of cases provided with help during the year, and their classifications, is as follows:-

(1) Ill	96
(2) Lying-in	90
(3) Expectant Mothers	9
(4) Mentally Defective	1
(5) Aged	10
(6) Children of school age	2

Total	208
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There is still a need for a limited number of whole-time salaried home helps, who could be directed to homes (particularly those of aged and semi-invalid) as the occasion arises, and do much or little work as circumstances indicated.

Their employment would go far towards easing the burdens of such people, and reduce the time taken up by supervision and administration under the existing organisation.

12. PREVENTION OF ILLNESS AND AFTER CARE.

Although local health authorities have long had an interest in this sphere, the National Health Service Act empowers them to make arrangements for the purpose of the prevention of illness and for the care and after care of persons suffering from illness or mental defectiveness. These powers open up a wide field of work which will eventually be of great benefit to the community.

A start has been made by the adoption of a scheme to provide each nurse with sick room equipment for issue on loan to their patients. Crutches, invalid chairs etc., may also be supplied when not provided through the hospital service. The local cinemas have co-operated in the display of information relating to diphtheria immunisation and accident prevention.

Cases referred for after-care by Almoners at hospitals have been visited, and advised or treated as necessary. This work will increase as co-ordination between the hospitals and Health Services improves. Convalescent home treatment for varying periods has been provided for eleven patients during the year on their doctor's recommendation, and extra milk supplied to certain patients suffering from tuberculosis.

Assistance has been given to, and a close liaison maintained with the Chest Physician, the N.S.P.C.C. Inspector, the Probation Officer, the Area Welfare Officer, the National Assistance Board, the Blind Persons Teacher, and the Disablement Rehabilitation Officer where joint action was indicated.

The dissemination of information on the prevention of illness is regarded as the responsibility of all members of the staff; and leaflets posters, and display sets for clinics have been provided to assist them in this work. I regard this personal approach as quite the best means of promoting health education, although other methods will be used when time and staff permit.

13. NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948 - WELFARE SERVICES.

Section 47 of this Act provides that "where a Medical Officer of Health of a county district certifies that a person is suffering from a grave chronic disease or being aged, infirm or physically incapacitated

is living in insanitary conditions and is unable to devote to himself and is not receiving from other persons, proper care and attention, the County District Council may apply to a court of summary jurisdiction for an order to remove the person to a suitable hospital or other place and be ~~maintained there~~. Action under this section has not been taken, as alternative methods of dealing with the few cases coming to notice were found practicable and preferable.

Homes for aged people are maintained by the Welfare Division in this district at the Shroggs, (Skipton) and Farfield Hall (Addingham). Arrangements have been made for the County Ophthalmologist, dental officer, and nurses to attend these Homes as required. Also, for the attendance of local medical practitioners.

Part-time home helps have been provided for some blind persons living in their own homes.

It is of interest to note that persons without a settled way of living do not present a problem in this area. The Area Officer of the National Assistance Board arranges for their admission to reception centres at Bradford or Burnley where efforts are made to influence the men to lead a more settled life. Rehabilitation rather than the mere provision of accommodation is the aim.

